

## **Minutes of the Executive Committee**

**April 20, 2009**

Chair Dwyer called the Executive Committee meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. and led the committee in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Executive Committee Members Present:**

Jim Dwyer	Dave Swan	Duane Paulson
Pat Haukohl	Tom Schellinger	
Bonnie Morris	Fritz Ruf	

### **Also Present:**

Chief of Staff Mark Mader	Senior Financial Analyst Bill Duckwitz
Chief of Staff Allison Bussler, Director of Parks	Judge Mike Bohren
Architectural Services Manager Dennis Cerreta	Legislative Policy Advisor Dave Krahn
Architectural Engineering Technician Mike Wells	Director of Parks and Land Use Dale Shaver
Collections Specialist Michelle Gallun	WCFLS Executive Director Tom Hennen
Principal Assistant Corporation Counsel Danni Caldwell	Senator Alberta Darling
County Executive Dan Vrakas	Deputy Director of HHS Don Maurer
Director of HHS Peter Schuler	Emergency Preparedness Director Richard Tuma
Supervisor Peter Wolff	Andrew Davis
Budget Management Specialist Linda Witkowski	Judge Mac Davis
Sheriff Dan Trawicki	Clerk of Courts Kathy Madden
Engineering Services Manager Gary Evans	Executive Assistant Julianne Klimetz
Inspector Steve Marks	Waukesha Freeman Katherine Michalets
Librarian Nancy Fletcher	Business Manager Betsy Crosswaie

### **Discuss Public Works Update**

Shaver said the 2009 budget dictates that efficiencies be explored in the Public Works and Parks and Land Use Departments to improve service delivery. Meetings were held with staff from both departments to brainstorm options, areas of improvement, simplification of processes, new opportunities, etc. The results of these meetings will be included in a report to the county executive. The results may determine if further study of the departments is needed. All recommendations and possible changes will be presented to the appropriate county board committees before action is taken.

Bussler said the departments provide similar services. Now is a great opportunity to ask questions, seek improved methods of working together and investigate options to better serve the citizens of Waukesha County. The staff is being empowered to find the best ways to do business. The process is not being approached as a means to consolidate. Staff had ideas they wanted to discuss and many are excited about possible changes. She has not noticed any resistance to the process.

Paulson informed the group that just because he removes snow from his driveway that does not mean he is qualified to plow I94.

Swan suggested the following ideas for further investigation: right turn snow plowing, reducing the amount of grass cut along county highways and extending the depreciation schedule. Dwyer recommended studying options for shift work.

Haukohl said she likes this fresh approach. This seems like a great way to investigate options of working jointly and more efficiently.

Shaver said he wants to finish this project by early June.

Bussler gave an update on the Public Works Department. She said the recent audit on transportation revealed a lack of branding for the county transit system. Recently, Milwaukee County Executive Scott Walker was shocked to learn Waukesha County has more than 30 bus routes per day going into Milwaukee. We are working with Waukesha Metro on branding to better identify our system. Fue Yang in IT developed a "Waukesha County Leading the Way" logo for transit and vendors have agreed to put the logo on buses. Wisconsin Coach Lines produced a 30-second commercial that mentions the Waukesha County Express that is playing on local TV stations. The committee watched the commercial.

Bussler distributed a handout titled *Waukesha County Department of Public Works, Stage 2 ARRA Stimulus Applications - \$6,459,000 total*. She explained that the handout, developed by Gary Evans, outlines the projects Waukesha County has submitted in hopes of getting stimulus funding. The process has been very confusing. SEWRPC will decide how the \$38.7 million allotted for the region will be distributed. Waukesha County hopes to receive \$6 to \$7 million in funding. Several smaller projects were selected with costs totaling \$6 to \$7 million.

Bussler said there have been small administrative changes in the Public Works Department since she became the interim director. She is very pleased with the openness and eagerness of staff. Staff are proud of the work they do. Work on the Waukesha bypass continues.

#### **Update on Courthouse Lobby Modifications**

Bussler said the front lobby of the courthouse was not designed for metal detectors and security. The current set up is congested and not ideal. A few years ago, modifications were investigated to reduce security concerns and be better suited for ADA requirements. The Courthouse Security Committee evaluated designs and made recommendations but unfortunately, the costs were much higher than anticipated. Due to the request of the county board, a less expensive option was sought that did not break the "skin" of the building. At the last Courthouse Security Committee meeting, members asked if the project would continue given the state of the economy. This project could be put on hold for a while especially considering a study planned for 2012 to review whether the Courthouse should be renovated or replaced with a new building. In addition, prisoner transport is a bigger issue right now. Front lobby renovations have been put on hold.

Ruf asked how much would it cost to resolve the prisoner transport issue? Cerreta said the project will cost \$2 million and starts today.

Bussler said the county executive feels we will continue to use this building. The judiciary feels it would be less expensive to build a new building. The 2012 study will help determine the best option.

Davis said the idea of studying the Courthouse was not in anyone's plan. Former Director of Public Works Rich Bolte used to say the Courthouse would last forever. Even though a building lasts forever does not mean it will be in good use forever. It becomes obsolete. The Courts are the biggest tenant in the Courthouse. The Courts approached the landlord to get electricity in a courtroom and were told there is not any money in the budget. The Courts would have to pay for the improvements. The current front entrance of the Courthouse and prisoners transported in the halls are not right. The Courthouse use study should be done right away. If we continue to use the building, improvements to the front door and prisoner movement should be improved.

Paulson asked Davis if he endorsed the Prisoner Transport Connector? Davis said the connector will pay for itself if it remains for ten years. He is not sure a new Courthouse is needed but if one is needed, it should be built sooner rather than later. The connector should be built now.

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Dwyer asked should we spend money on lobby renovations before we are sure of a plan for the Courthouse? Keeping the same space and reshuffling the Titanic's chairs will not solve the problem.

Morris asked if the county gets stimulus funds for projects that are already in the budget, where will the money go? Bussler said she could not answer that question. Morris asked can anything be done to alleviate traffic in the lobby? Bussler said breaking through the front wall would alleviate traffic but cost big money. Dwyer said moving the outdoor stairs would provide more space but would create problems due to the mechanicals located beneath that area.

Haukohl asked could the study be done any sooner? Bussler said the administration does not recommend moving the project up. The county spends a lot of money on studies that sit on the shelves and the projects are not competed. The HHS building will be built first.

**Discuss and Consider Ordinance 164-O-010: Transfer of Funds to Capital Project #200407 for Northview Garage Demolition Costs**

Cerreta said this ordinance authorizes the transfer of \$20K to capital project #200407 Highway Ops Storage Building for increased costs for the demolition of the Northview garage. The garage demolition was included in the scope of the original project but more funding is necessary to cover unanticipated increases in the project bid. Additional project funds of \$13K are also requested as a precaution for possible contaminated clean-up that may be discovered when the concrete floor is removed. The total budget appropriations for this project after the \$20K increase are \$472K.

MOTION: Swan moved, Paulson second, to approve Ordinance 164-O-010.

Morris asked when was this project bid? Wells said February. Morris asked would rebidding the project bring lower costs? Cerreta said he would do the project now and not rebid.

Motion carried 7-0.

**Discuss and Consider Ordinance 164-O-011: Adoption of Identity Theft Prevention Program and Delegation of Program Administration to Business Services & Collections Manager**

Gallun distributed a handout titled FTC Business Alert. She indicated that the handout explains red flag rules. This ordinance establishes Waukesha County's policy to create red flags (alerts signaling for possible identity theft) and indicate how the county would respond to red flags by May 1, 2009. Because the rule can be tailored for the county's circumstance, Gallun was able to write a policy that applies to the types of accounts the county has. Collections is the only county division that will be affected by this policy.

Haukohl said under "Definitions, on page two of the ordinance attachments, "Identify theft" should be replaced with "Identity theft." She wants the policy to indicate that revisions to the policy would have to go through the county board or finance committee. Annually or biannually, Haukohl would like the policy and an update on identity theft occurrences reported to the Finance Committee. Gallun said she would add the verbiage.

MOTION: Ruf moved, Morris second, to approve Ordinance 164-O-011.

MOTION: Swan moved, Haukohl second, to amend Ordinance 164-O-011 by adding the following to lines 30 and 31 of the ordinance (additions are underlined):

*respond to changes in applicable federal or state laws or regulations; such changes must be approved by the County Board.*

Motion carried 6-1 (Ruf voted no).

On the original motion to approve Ordinance 164-O-011: Motion carried 7-0.

**Discuss and Consider Ordinance 164-O-008: Endorse the Receipt and Expenditure of Federal Funds to Provide Library Services to Persons Needing Health Information and Modify the 2009 Federated Library System Budget**

MOTION: Paulson moved, Haukohl second, to approve Ordinance 164-O-088.

Fletcher said this is a very exciting project for the libraries. Health literacy, a hot topic in the health community, allows health care information to be presented to patients at their levels. It is especially important for those with lower literacy skills and seniors. This project will bring community partners together to produce an online product for librarians and health care providers. Brochures will be available for those patients who are not comfortable using computers. A survey of health care providers and agencies serving seniors will produce a needs assessment of health literacy in Waukesha County and help to shape the marketing/public awareness campaign.

Swan asked if Fletcher will be dealing with employer-based wellness programs? Fletcher thought that was a good idea and will incorporate it into her plan.

Motion carried 7-0.

**Discuss and Consider Ordinance 164-O-009: Endorse the Receipt and Expenditure of Federal Funds to Provide Adaptive Equipment in Libraries and Modify the 2009 Federated Library System Budget**

MOTION: Ruf moved, Swan second, to approve Ordinance 164-O-009.

Fletcher said these funds from LSTA will be used primarily to purchase full-spectrum light lamps for WCFLS member libraries to assist vision-impaired individuals as well as the county's elderly. Member libraries typically use fluorescent lighting, which strains the eyes, while full-spectrum lighting produces clearer colors and contrasts, making reading easier.

Motion carried 7-0.

**Discuss and Consider Ordinance 164-O-007: Repeal and Recreate Section 4-110(C) 1 of the Waukesha County Code of Ordinances**

MOTION: Paulson moved, Ruf second, to approve Ordinance 164-O-007.

Mader distributed a handout illustrating which sections of 4-110 (C) of the Waukesha County Code of Ordinances would be repealed. He said this technical change updates the code. Paulson said this section of the code was left intact until it could be determined if the Long Term Care Committee was needed after the ADRC was formed.

Motion carried 7-0.

**Discuss and Consider the Following Appointments:**

MOTION: Swan moved, Ruf second, to approve the following appointments en masse.

164-A-001: Appointment of Randy Radish to the Community Development Block Grant Board

164-A-002: Appointment of Rick Stevens to the Community Development Block Grant Board

164-A-003: Appointment of Paul Decker to the Health & Human Services Board

164-A-004: Appointment of Robyn Turtenwald to the Community Development Block Grant Board

164-A-005: Appointment of Richard Brandt to the Federated Library Board

164-A-006: Appointment of Duane Paulson to the Health & Human Services Board

Motion carried 7-0.

**Committee Reports by Committee Chairs for the Following Meetings:**

March 17, 2009 – Land Use – Rufsa said all items discussed at this meeting have been approved by the county board.

March 17 & April 1, 2009 – Finance – Haukohl said at the March 17<sup>th</sup> meeting, the committee approved ordinances and toured the ADRC. At the April 1<sup>st</sup> meeting, they heard reports on general funds, proprietary funds, the Ice Arena Study and the Treasurer's annual report.

March 17, 2009 – Personnel – Schellinger said all items discussed at this meeting have been approved by the county board.

March 26 & April 2, 2009 – HHS – Paulson said the committee approved Ordinance 164-O-007. They also heard reports on Alcohol Treatment Court fee implementation, public health and public health preparedness including the Public Health Governance essential service #8. The committee also discussed the Juvenile Justice Center's federal stimulus grant.

**Discuss Legislative Issues with Senator Alberta Darling**

Dwyer said if the Governor's proposed budget were implemented Waukesha County would have great difficulty in continuing operations. If the full 3% levy authority was used to cover budget shortages in HHS, there would be no money available for program implementation. Darling said she agrees with Dwyer that this budget will have profound consequences on Wisconsin counties. The state delegates its workload to the counties, which is not fair. This budget has devastating holes.

A handout was distributed titled *Preliminary Analysis of Major Fiscal Impact Concerns in Governor's Proposed Budget (3/12/09)*. Maurer explained how the proposed Governor's budget would severely affect child welfare and mentally ill in Waukesha County. State Community Aid funding has remained stagnant since 1996 causing Waukesha County's share to increase to 64%. Despite best efforts, Waukesha County has had no other choice but to reduce services over the last ten years to cover mandates.

Schuler said proposed cuts for mental health funding will affect children with serious mental health issues and treatment needs. It will also affect funding for outpatient mental health and AODA services. The reduction in state funding will increase the county's share of the cost. The state's share has been renamed "Nonfederal Share" and the payment for mental health institutes has been moved to the counties.

Maurer said Youth Aids keep kids from going to state run facilities. Waukesha County has been able to offer services and early intervention to minimize the number of youths sent to Ethan Allen. Waukesha County currently has five kids at Ethan Allen; in the past we have had 40. Judges need to have good programs available so they can opt to have youth stay in Waukesha County rather than go to a state facility. There are rumors that stimulus funds may be available to alleviate the Youth Aids problem at least temporarily.

Dwyer said we realize there is not enough money to cover all the issues in the state. We are looking for alternatives.

Schuler said the budget proposed a 1% reduction in income maintenance funding. The funding has a federal share so in order to achieve a cut of \$134K, \$268K actually needs to be cut. With the state of the economy, caseloads have increased sharply. It is difficult to stay within the 30-day time limit set by the state and not be sanctioned.

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Tuma said last year the wireless 911 bill sunsetted. Reinstating a 75-cent surcharge per cell phone and all devices capable of accessing a PSAP would generate \$60 million per year to pay for costs inside 911 centers. Eighty-two percent of all 911 calls are generated by cell calls. This bill does not ask the state for any money. It is technology neutral legislation that has broad spectrum support from WCA, all wireless and land line providers, etc. Darling said the public does not want any increases. Public safety is a priority. Krahn said a \$9 user fee per year for services already provided makes sense. The funding will not be used for other public safety services.

Vrakas said the charge is a use fee for incredible technology. It is not fair to only charge land lines for this service and not cell phones. Darling said she agrees with Vrakas. We have to be fair to the people in the state. Who in their right mind wants to stay in Wisconsin? Vrakas said it is critical to get school costs and health insurance under control along with revamping the juvenile system including repurposing Lincoln Hills.

Darling said Dave Krahn does a great job and is on top of issues. He works well in a coalition to educate and build around the important issues. The budget does not focus on keeping Wisconsin on track. The budget is uncomfortable for everyone. Waukesha County is an innovator always looking for ways to do it better.

### **Approve Minutes of March 16, 2009**

MOTION: Ruf moved, Schellinger second, to approve the minutes of March 16, 2009 as amended. Motion carried 7-0.

### **Discuss and Consider Resolution 164-R-002: Opposition to the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Transit Authority (RTA) as Proposed in the 2009-2011 Governor's Budget**

Wolff said he supports the consolidation of governmental services and regionalization for efficiency. He believes that some form of RTA for Southeastern Wisconsin is not only inevitable but would be positive for the region. Whenever possible, it is important for county board supervisors to have input and supervision in the creation of an appointed body that has the ability to levy taxes and dictate spending. The governance, responsibility and authority of a Southeastern RTA needs to be spelled out in enabling state legislation. A permanent RTA needs to be produced through the normal legislative process and not through a biennial budget. All participating governments need to have an understanding of how the regional effort will work. Waukesha County needs to encourage state representatives and the governor to remove the RTA provision from the 2010-2011 biennial budget. Legislators need to be encouraged to work together with member governments to establish a framework for a successful and sustainable RTA in Southeastern Wisconsin.

Ruf said he was part of a Legislative Council Study Committee that looked at RTAs. Their proposal granted flexibility and membership control so that an entire county would not have to join an RTA. It would be the responsibility of the counties to authorize some aspects of the RTA but the primary assumption was that a referendum would be necessary. There is support of the Legislative Council's Study Committee's recommendation. He could not vote for this resolution because it is for something that could happen in the future. The county board would be legislating for what has not come before us when there are other options. He is not comfortable with this resolution. It is like putting the cart before the horse.

Wolff said RTA language is found on page 495 of the Governor's budget. Ruf said he does not see that anything will be gained by voting for something that will not happen. Paulson said he agrees with Ruf. The county board would have to approve/defeat membership in an RTA.

Wolff said an RTA is a positive thing and needs to be developed correctly. Ruf said there is a bill in front of the legislature that addresses all of Wolff's concerns. Wolff said he does not see the harm in approving this resolution and sending the message to the legislature.

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Haukohl said she believes in heading things off at the pass. She does not want to see an RTA board created with the same powers as the appointed WCTC board that can raise taxes without representation. Wolff said they have the ability to bond. Haukohl said if this gets through, she would want to vote against it.

Dwyer said it is customary to know the rules before deciding to join an organization. This resolution takes the stand of the entire region when Waukesha County is only one-seventh of it.

Wolff said it is better to have an RTA we want to be in. It would be more efficient to have a regional transit effort. Dwyer said in 1995, the Waukesha County Board voted against such membership.

Morris said she would like to read the Legislative Council's report on RTAs before she votes on this resolution. It is important. Morris recommended tabling Resolution 164-R-002 until Executive Committee members had the opportunity to read the report.

MOTION: Morris moved, Ruf second, to table Resolution 164-R-002 until further information is available. Motion carried 7-0.

Krahn said he would provide the committee and Wolff summary copies of the Legislative Council's report.

### **Correspondence**

Dwyer distributed and reviewed the list of correspondence. Supervisors may request copies of listed items from Jicha.

### **Meeting Approvals**

MOTION: Swan moved, Haukohl second, to approve attendance of the Executive Committee to the Wisconsin Way discussions. Motion carried 7-0.

MOTION: Rufm oved, Swan second, to adjourn the meeting at 12:02 p.m. Motion carried 7-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie J. Morris  
Secretary